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Pinches, and published transliterations of them in the *Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology*, November, 1883. The tablets are now in the British Museum.

Since then I have myself purchased some Kappadokian texts, others have been obtained by Dr. Peters for the University of Pennsylvania, while more than twenty are in the collection of M. Golénischeff at Petersburg. The latter are mostly in a very perfect condition, and as some of them are written in the more ordinary type of cuneiform, a comparison of the latter with what may be termed the Kappadokian script has enabled M. Golénischeff and myself to identify the Kappadokian characters to which a false value or no value at all had previously been assigned. As soon as the true values of the characters were ascertained, I found that the language of the tablets was an Assyrian dialect, which presented several phonetic peculiarities and contained words which are probably of foreign origin. The phonetic peculiarities agreed with those of certain of the Tel el-Amarna texts from Northern Syria, as, for instance, the substitution of *Gimēl* for *Ḳôph*. Moreover, the forms of the characters resemble those of the Syrian tablets from Tel el-Amarna, and since the Kappadokian tablets contain phrases which are common in the Tel el-Amarna texts, but are unknown in Assyrian of later date, we may conclude that the library from which they are derived was founded in the same age as that of the Tel el-Amarna collection. It was probably situated in the country called "Khanu the greater," by the Assyrians, mention of which is made in a letter of Assur-yuballidh of Assyria to the Egyptian king.

A large proportion of the proper names occurring in the Kappadokian texts are compounded with the name of Assur, and so imply that the library belonged to an Assyrian colony. Some of the foreign names found in them are said to be those of *gari* or "strangers." The title of *limmu* is also met with. All the tablets I have examined relate to commercial transactions, principally to the lending of money. One of them is a quittance for the receipt of a large amount of lead.

REV. A. H. SAYCE, M. A.

ON SOME LATER BABYLONIAN INSCRIPTIONS.

The Rev. J. N. Strassmaier, S. J., laid before the meeting a small collection of Babylonian inscriptions and made a few remarks upon them. The collection contained one inscription of *Marduk-aplu-iddin* (722-710 B. C.), one of *Sargon* (710-705 B. C.) three of *Esarhaddon* (681-667 B. C.), three of *Sumas-sum-ukin* (667-647 B. C.), four of *Kandalanu* (Kineladanos of the Canon of Ptolemæus, 647-625 B. C.) four of *Labasi-Marduk*, the son of Neriglissar (556 B. C.), six of *Xerxes* (485-464 B. C.), ten of *Artaxerxes* (464-423 B. C.), a letter of Nûr to his brother Iddin-Bel from the year 164 of the Seleucide era (= 148 B. C.), and a small inscription in Babylonian characters, but apparently in a new language, hitherto unknown. The texts with a transliteration will appear in the Transactions of the Congress.

REV. J. N. STRASSMAIER.